

NIKE MISSILE BASE C-84,
UNDERGROUND STORAGE MAGAZINES AND
LAUNCHER-LOADER ASSEMBLIES
Easternmost Portion of Nike Missile
Base C-84 Launch Area
Vicinity of Barrington
Lake County
Illinois

HAER No. IL-116-0

HAER
ILL
49-BARR.V,
10-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

NIKE MISSILE BASE C-84, UNDERGROUND STORAGE MAGAZINES AND
LAUNCHER-LOADER ASSEMBLIES

HAER
ILL
49-BARR.V,
10-

Nike Missile Base C-84,
Underground Storage Magazines and Launcher-Loader Assemblies HAER No. IL-116-O
Easternmost portion of Nike Missile Base C-84 Launch Area
Vicinity of Barrington
Lake County
Illinois

Significance: The underground storage magazines and launcher-loader assemblies are where Nike missiles were stored and kept ready for launching at the Nike Missile Base C-84. These underground structures contained a room for storing the Nike missiles, an elevator to carry the missiles to the surface for firing. There were four launchers built on top of the underground magazines.

These structures were built in 1956 from standardized drawings approved by the Corps of Engineers, most of which were designed by the firm of Leon Chatelian, Jr., of Washington, D.C. Nike buildings were considered modified emergency buildings. Originally, they were to be pre-fabricated structures, but were rather unsightly and did not contribute to troop morale and, therefore, were changed to modified emergency design.

Description: There are three underground magazines (missiles' storage area) of masonry construction. The main room inside each magazine measure 42' x 63', with further extensions of 4' and 7' at the ends of the hydraulic elevator. The elevator shaft is 9' x 43'. The magazine is accessed by a steep set of stairs, which are accessed through a metal hatch. At the bottom of the stairs is another heavy metal door. Off the missile storage room is a hallway that leads to a small bunk room, and a launching room. These rooms are separated from the missile storage room by concrete walls. An emergency exit leads from the launch room to the outside.

Historian: Christina Carlson, Bregman & Company, Inc., Bethesda, Maryland, June 1994